

REMARKS

Claims 1-149 remain pending.

The Examiner is thanked for the Office Action's indication that Claims 1-129, 132, and 133 are allowed, and that Claims 147 and 149 (which have been objected to) would be allowed if rewritten so as not to depend from a rejected claim. The latter claims have not been so rewritten at this time, however, because, for the reasons given below, the base claims from which they depend are believed to be patentable over the art relied on in the Office Action.

Claims 130, 131, 134-146 and 148 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,866,988 (Oda).

Independent Claims 130 and 131 each are directed to an electron-emitting apparatus comprising, *inter alia*, a potential supply path for supplying an acceleration potential to an acceleration electrode applied with an acceleration potential for accelerating electrons emitted from electron-emitting devices, wherein at least a portion of the potential supply path passes through the electron source substrate. Independent Claims 138 and 140 are each directed to an electron-emitting apparatus comprising, *inter alia*, an acceleration electrode being applied with an acceleration potential for accelerating electrons emitted from electron-emitting devices, wherein the acceleration potential is supplied via a portion passing through an electron source substrate, and a resistor is electrically connected with a potential supply path for supplying the acceleration potential.

Independent Claims 139 and 141 each are directed to an electron-emitting apparatus comprising, *inter alia*, an acceleration electrode being applied with an acceleration potential for accelerating electrons emitted from electron-emitting devices, wherein the acceleration potential is supplied via an intermediate area on a side of an electron source substrate, and a resistor is electrically connected with a potential supply path for supplying the acceleration potential.

Independent Claim 134-137 each recite an electron-emitting apparatus comprising, in part, an electron source substrate on which electron-emitting devices and driving wires are arranged, wherein on the substrate is provided a portion to which an acceleration potential for accelerating electrons emitted from the electron-emitting devices is supplied.

In support of the Section 102(b) rejection, the Office Action relies on various portions of Oda, including in particular Fig. 7. That Figure shows an electron-emitting device comprising a substrate 1, electrodes 2 and 3, thin films 4 and 5, and an electron-emitting region 7. A gauging system has a power source 11 for applying a device voltage V_f to the device, an ammeter 12 for metering the device current I_f running through the thin films 4 and 5 between the electrodes 2 and 3, and an anode 15 for capturing an emission current I_e produced by electrons emitted from the electron-emitting region 7. A high voltage source 13 is for applying a voltage to the anode 15 and another ammeter 14 is for metering the emission current I_e produced by electrons emitted from the region 7. *See, for example*, col. 11, lines 41-63.

The Office Action states that the “wire connected to 15 in Figure 7” of Oda corresponds to a potential supply path of, for example, Claim 130. However, as is apparent from Fig. 7 and the foregoing description of Oda, a potential from high voltage source 13 is supplied through the current meter 14 to the anode 15. Although the high voltage source 13 and a power source 11 (which drives the electron-emitting device 11) are connected to ground wiring, because of such grounding, the acceleration voltage supplied from the high voltage source 13 is not supplied to the electron emitting device of Fig. 7. Moreover, although the Office Action asserts that Oda teaches a “resistor film (4 and 5) (See Col. 8, lines 33-34) . . . being electrically connected with said potential supply path . . .”, in Oda the elements 4 and 5 are connected to a power source 11 and ground. Between those elements 4 and 5 and the high voltage source 13 for accelerating electrons, a ground potential is connected. That ground potential is not employed as an acceleration potential voltage for accelerating electrons. Thus, the elements 4 and 5 of Oda are not connected electrically to a potential supply path for supplying an electron acceleration potential, in the same context as in the present invention.

Indeed, Applicants respectfully submit that nothing in Oda would teach or suggest an electron-emitting apparatus comprising the above-recited configuration of features set forth in Claims 130, 131, 134-141.

For these reasons, Claim 130, 131, and 134-141 are each believed to be clearly patentable over Oda.

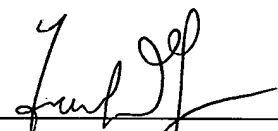
The other rejected or objected to claims in this application each depend from one or

another of the independent claims discussed above, and also are believed to be patentable over Oda, at least for the reason that each depends from a patentable base claim.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' attorney of record may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 42,478

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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